



Health insurance for all kids

Governor Doyle's Plan to Provide Health Insurance for All Kids



Governor Doyle's Health Care Vision

- Every Wisconsin resident has a right to health care access.
- State government must do what it can to ensure that residents have access to high quality, affordable health care.
- No child should ever be without health insurance.
- The rising cost of health care is bad for the Wisconsin economy. State government must work with the private sector and other stakeholders to find ways to control costs.



Governor Doyle's Health Care Policy Agenda

1. Badger Care Plus – Health Insurance for all Children
2. Healthy Wisconsin – Reinsurance for Catastrophic Care
3. Family Care Statewide
4. Access to Affordable Prescription Drugs
 1. Protect SeniorCare
 2. Canadian Drug Website
 3. Badger Rx
5. Health Care “Dumping” Ban for Large Employers



Governor Doyle's Health Care Policy Agenda (cont.)

6. E-Health Board – Information on Quality and Cost in Health Care, Reduce Medical Errors (WHIO, POVD replacement legislation).
7. Tax Deduction for Health Insurance Premiums for Workers that Don't Have Access to Employer-sponsored Insurance.
8. Permit the Development of Health Care "Co-ops" for Farmers and Small Businesses.
9. Vital Investments in Public Health Programs.



Rising Number of Uninsured Children

- In 2003, 86,000 children (7% of total) were without health insurance for at least part of the year. In 2004, this number rose to 91,000.
- The lack of health insurance falls hardest on “near poor” families. Twelve percent (12%) of near poor children were uninsured for at least part of the year in 2004.
- Fewer and fewer businesses are offering their employees health insurance plans.
 - In 2001, 76% of Wisconsin residents had their health insurance coverage provided by their employers. That number in 2004 was 69%.
 - Over the same period of time the MA program has grown but not enough to avoid an increase in the uninsured rate.



Policy Solution = *BadgerCare Plus*

- Create a single, comprehensive health care safety net program for families that merges the “family” MA, BadgerCare and Healthy Start Programs.
- The new program would provide access to affordable health insurance for all kids as well as expand eligibility in other areas.
- The combined program would serve approximately 500,000 residents.
- This effort represents the most comprehensive reform of Wisconsin’s MA program since its creation in 1965.



Program Goals

- Ensure that all children have access to affordable health insurance.
- Improve the overall health of Wisconsin residents.
- Lower the long-term cost of the MA program.
- Simplify and streamline the family MA/BadgerCare/Healthy Start programs to save millions of dollars in overhead costs and eliminate barriers to enrollment.



Key Proposal Elements

- Simplify Eligibility Determination
 - One, simple system of eligibility determination
 - No asset test
 - Eliminate the EVF process
- Expand Eligibility
 - Allow all parents to “buy-in” to BadgerCare Plus for their children.
 - Cover pregnant woman up to 300% FPL.
 - Cover adult caretakers and parents that temporarily lose custody of their children.
 - Raise income ceiling for parents to 200% FPL.



Key Proposal Elements (cont.)

- Improve overall health of participants
 - Enroll all participants in managed care organizations to ensure access to primary physicians.
 - Reward HMO's that meet specific health outcome targets in areas such as smoking cessation and healthy births.
 - Increase access to dental services through pay for performance and/or other innovative strategies.
- Cut red tape, save money
 - Reduce administrative expenses by almost \$20 million annually by streamlining program.
 - Model the new program after SeniorCare which has a simple 1 page application form.

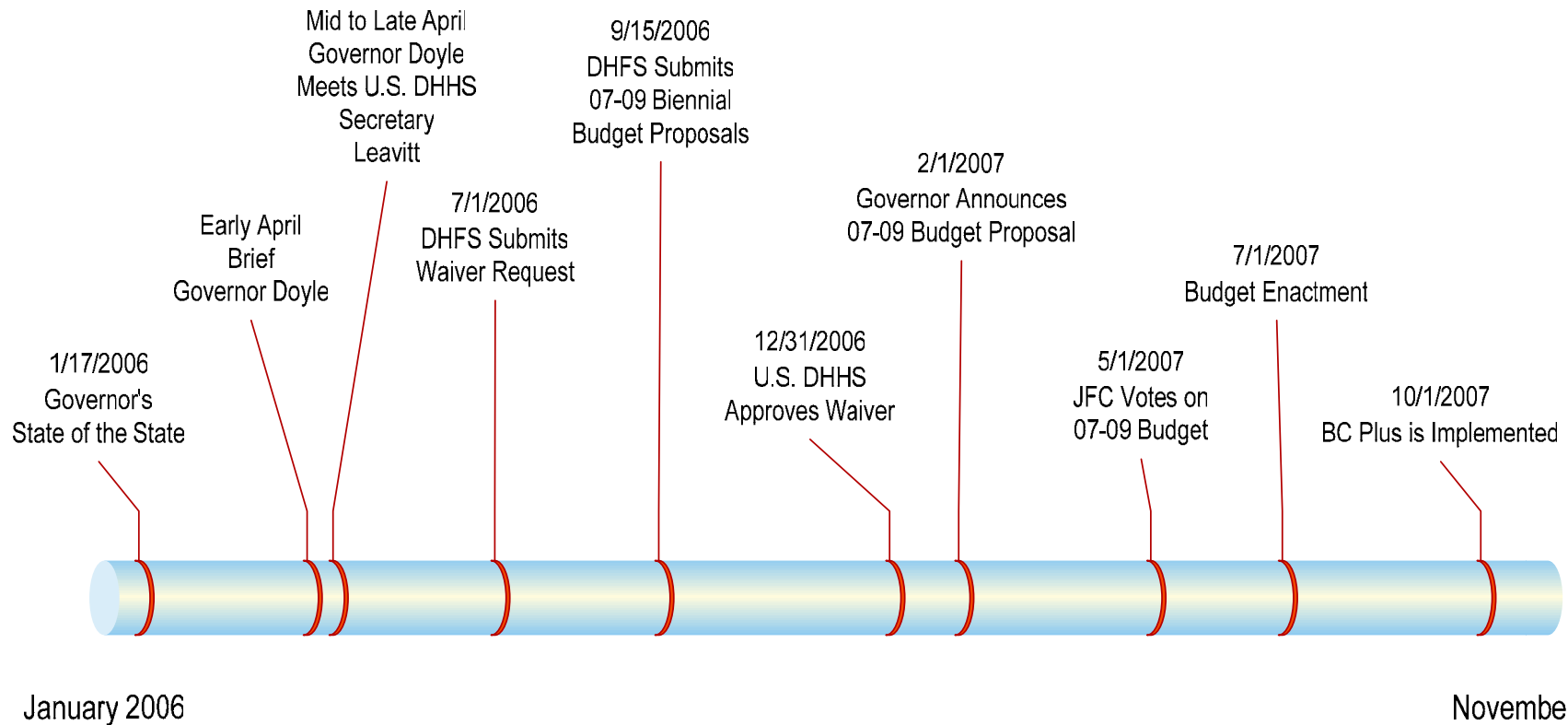


Program Pays for Itself!

	SFY08	SFY09
Benefit Cost	\$ 12.5 million	\$ 23.5 million
Administrative Cost	\$ 0.7 million	\$ 0.8 million
Total Cost	\$ 13.2 million	\$ 24.3 million
HMO Expansion Savings	\$ 16.8 million	\$ 22.9 million
State Administrative Savings	\$ 2.5 million	\$ 2.5 million
Total Savings	\$ 19.3 million	\$ 25.4 million
NET COST OF BC PLUS	(\$ 6.1 million)	(\$ 1.1 million)

BadgerCare Plus Project Timeline

3/31/2006





Outreach

- BadgerCare Plus Advisors to meet every couple of months to provide guidance on program design.
- Focus groups of providers and program participants to identify problems with current programs and suggest improvements.
- Town Hall meetings with Governor Doyle and/or Secretary Nelson to discuss the new program and get useful input from interested parties around the state.
- Legislative briefings with interested legislators/staff as program design is finalized and input from CMS is received.



Summary

- BadgerCare Plus is a historic opportunity to reform Wisconsin's Medicaid program.
- Through reform we will be able to:
 - Cover all kids and extend the health care safety net in other important ways
 - Improve the health of participants
 - Save taxpayer money
 - Simplify and streamline government
- Over the next several months we will be seeking a lot of input from stakeholders as we design the new program.



For More Information

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